

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a composition ~~comprising~~ consisting of a fatty external phase and a gelled aqueous internal phase representing about 60% up to about 98% by weight of said composition, said process comprising the steps of:

preparing a fatty phase;

preparing a gelled aqueous phase; [[and]]

adding said fatty phase to said gelled aqueous phase, said gelled aqueous phase being about 60% to about 98% by weight of said added phases; and

modifying said added phases to form a water-in-oil emulsion having said fatty phase as the external phase and said gelled aqueous as the internal phase, wherein,

said gelled aqueous phase comprises a polyelectrolyte polymer, water, and optionally one or more sunscreens, and

said fatty phase comprises one or more oils, a lipophilic emulsifying system comprising one or more emulsifying surfactants, and optionally one or more sunscreens.

28. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said emulsifying system comprises at least one emulsifying surfactant selected from the following group:

- a) alkylpolyglycosides;
- b) compositions formed of alkylpolyglycoside(s) and of fatty alcohol(s);
- c) optionally alkoxyated polyol esters; and
- d) polyethylene glycol/alkyl glycol copolymers.

29. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said emulsifying system further comprises:

- a) alkylpolyglycosides;
 - b) compositions formed of alkylpolyglycoside(s) and of fatty alcohol(s);
 - c) optionally alkoxyated polyol polyhydroxystearates;
- and
- d) polyethylene glycol/alkyl glycol copolymers.

30. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, in which the emulsifying system comprises at least one selected from the following group:

- a) an optionally alkoxyated polyglycerol ester;
- b) an optionally alkoxyated polyglycol polyhydroxystearate; and
- c) a polyethylene glycol/alkyl glycol copolymer, in combination with an alkylpolyglycoside or a composition formed of alkylpolyglycoside(s) and of fatty alcohol(s).

31. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of:

a) copolymers;

b) homopolymers, which may or may not be crosslinked or branched, based on monomers having a partially or completely salified strong acid or weak acid functional group or a cationic functional group, wherein said monomers are selected from the group consisting of:

1) styrenesulphonic acid;

2) 2-sulphoethyl methacrylate;

3) styrenephosphonic acid which is partially salified;

4) styrenephosphonic acid which is completely salified;

5) 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid (AMPS) which is partially salified in the form of the sodium salt, of the ammonium salt, or of the monoethanolamine salt; and

6) 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid (AMPS) which is completely salified in the form of the sodium salt, of the ammonium salt, or of the monoethanolamine salt.

32. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said polymer comprises at least one member selected from the following group consisting of:

- a) copolymers of acrylic acid and of 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid (AMPS);
- b) copolymers of acrylamide and of 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid;
- c) copolymers of 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid and of 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid homopolymer;
- d) acrylic acid homopolymer,
- e) copolymers of acryloylethyltrimethylammonium chloride and of acrylamide;
- f) copolymers of AMPS and of vinylpyrrolidone;
- g) copolymers of acrylic acid and of alkyl acrylates, wherein the carbonaceous chain comprises between 10 and 30 carbon atoms; and

h) copolymers of AMPS and of alkyl acrylates, wherein the carbonaceous chain comprises between 10 and 30 carbon atoms.

33. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said gelled aqueous phase comprises at least one emulsifying surfactant.

34. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said gelled aqueous phase is obtained by dissolving said

polymer and has a resulting viscosity of between about 0.5 and about 300 Pa·s.

35. (previously presented) The process of claim 34, wherein said gelled aqueous phase has a viscosity of between about 1.0 and about 150 Pa·s.

36. (previously presented) The process of claim 35, wherein said gelled aqueous phase has viscosity of between about 5 and about 100 Pa·s.

37. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said fatty phase is added to said gelled aqueous phase at a temperature of less than about 55°C.

38. (previously presented) The process of claim 27, wherein said fatty phase is added to said gelled aqueous phase at a temperature of between about 15°C and about 35°C.

39. (currently amended) The process of claim 27, ~~further comprising the step of:~~ wherein, said modifying step comprises mixing said fatty phase with said gelled aqueous phase with a stirring rate of less than about 1000 revolutions per minute.

40. (previously presented) The process of claim 39, wherein said stirring rate is between about 80 and about 800 revolutions per minute.

41. (canceled)

42. (previously presented) A composition which may be utilized in a cosmetics, pharmaceutical, veterinary, or detergent preparation, prepared by the process of claim 27.

43. (canceled)

44. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a composition ~~comprising~~ consisting of a fatty external phase and a gelled aqueous internal phase representing about 60% up to about 98% by weight of said composition, said process comprising the steps of:

adding a fatty phase comprising one or more oils, a lipophilic emulsifying system, and optionally one or more sunscreens to a gelled aqueous phase contained in a vessel comprising water, a polyelectrolyte polymer, and optionally one or more sunscreens, said gelled aqueous ~~phased being contained~~ representing about 60% up to about 98% of said added phases in [[a]] said vessel; and

mixing said fatty phase and said gelled aqueous phase to obtain a water-in-oil emulsion in which said fatty phase is ~~an~~ the external phase and said gelled aqueous phase is ~~an~~ the internal phase;

wherein said lipophilic emulsifying system comprises one or more emulsifying surfactants.